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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20852

To whom it may concern:

My name is Rachel Samuels and I am writing to comment upon the issue concerning the labelling of irradiated foods. To my understanding the word irradiation means something is exposed or treated with radiation. If this is true, does it make sense to add this to our food? The answer is no. Our planet is already exposed to enough man made pollutants and toxins which are primarily found in the air and water. There are many incidents and consequences which I'm sure you are quite aware. Yet, since I can't change the fact that your agency has deemed irradiation a safe process, I believe the consumer should choose based on their **individual** health preference.

The point is the consumer has a right to know if their food is exposed to this source. This process may have been proven safe for the short term, but what about the long term effects of irradiation? Can your agency completely guarantee the consumer's safety? Your agency once supported cigarette smoking as something healthy. However, now you require labelling to show that it may cause several health risks. I believe the reason you allow this is due to the fact the FDA realizes people are going to choose what they are going to do with their bodies. Therefore, it is not logical to take away the consumers' decision about what they are going to eat.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to comment on this matter. I hope that all the matters will be settled in a civilized and orderly manner.

Sincerely,

Rachel Samuels
Rachel Samuels
College Student

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